

ECUADOR



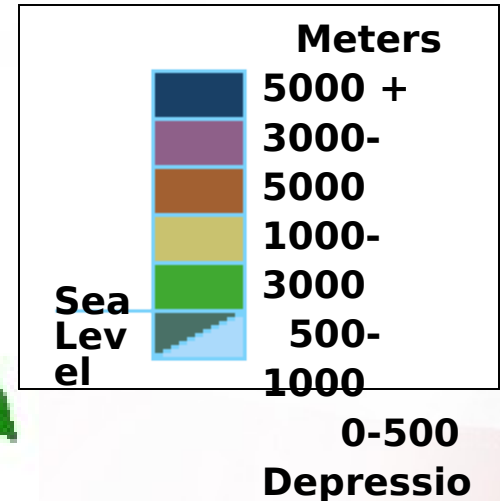
- High altitude in capital city
- Volcanic activity
- Economic turbulence
 - “Dollarized” currency
- Substantial oil resources
- Rich agricultural areas



Ecuador: Environmental Issues

- Topography
- Climate

Tropical along coast, becoming cooler inland at higher elevations; tropical in Amazonian jungle lowlands



Coastal plain (costa), inter-Andean central highlands (sierra), and flat to rolling eastern jungle (oriente)

lowest point: Pacific

Ecuador: Environmental Issues

- Industry
 - Mining concentrated in southern provinces
 - Oil production in eastern Amazon region
 - Agriculture
- Water
 - Surface water contaminated with raw sewage
 - Mercury contamination in some surface waters near gold mining operations

Ecuador: Environmental Issues

- Food
 - Mercury contamination of freshwater fish due to gold mining
 - Lead contamination of produce
- Air
 - Localized air pollution near urban and industrial centers – tin and antimony smelters
 - Volcanic ash falls near Quito
- Soil
 - Localized contamination near industry and waste disposal sites

Ecuador: Environmental Issues

- Greatest short-term environmental health risks
 - Water contaminated with raw sewage or runoff
- Greatest long-term environmental health risks
 - Chronic ingestion of mercury in contaminated water and food

Ecuador: Diseases of operational Importance

- High-risk country
- Diseases of greatest risk
 - Food and water-borne: bacterial diarrhea, hepatitis A
 - Vector-borne: malaria, dengue fever

Ecuador: Diseases of operational Importance

- Diseases of potential risk
 - Food and water-borne: brucellosis, cholera, protozoal diarrhea, typhoid/paratyphoid fever
 - Vector-borne: Bartonellosis, Chagas disease, leishmaniasis, onchocerciasis, plague, yellow fever
 - Sexually transmitted: gonorrhea/chlamydia, hepatitis B, HIV/AIDS
 - Water contact: leptospirosis
 - Respiratory: tuberculosis
 - Animal contact: rabies